

A NEW SPECIES OF CICINDELA AND TWO NEW RECORDS
OF COLEOPTERA

BY BERNARD ROTGER

*San Luis, Colorado**Cicindela theatina* Rotger, new species

Head and thorax shining green tinged frequently with coppery lustre, anterior and basal impressions of thorax purplish. Elytra dark reddish cupreous, opaque; at times greenish toward the base, with basal reflection purplish or green. Legs and underside of body metallic green. Labrum short, white, and more than three times wider than long, with a small tooth. Head hairy between the eyes, with many interocular striae; palpi pale, with last joint green. Prothorax sparsely covered with long white hairs, subquadrate, scarcely wider than long and convex. Elytra granulate-punctate, punctures rather distant generally, and green, but more closely spaced toward base; interspaces reddish cupreous; elytral markings consist of humeral lunule almost reaching, and in several instances actually reaching middle band and merging into it, middle band obliquely bent with long extremity not hooked at tip, but sometimes dilated, and apical lunule; all markings widely united at margin. Palpi, four front trochanters, femora, sides of abdomen as well as of thorax very hairy. Elytra more parallel in male, wider and subparallel in female, apex being finely serrulate. Tarsal claws long. Length, including labrum, 12-14.50 mm.

Holotype male, *allotype* female, and *topoparatypes* in the Rotger collection.

I believe that this species might be placed between *Cicindela lengi* and *C. limbata* Say.

This species inhabits the edge of the Great Sand Dunes in the SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO, at an altitude of about 8,200 feet, where it was found by the author in three field trips, on the 26th of June, the 28th of August, 1942, and on the 19th of May, 1943. It was discovered on the side of Mosca Pass where the road approaches the Sand Dunes, in spots of scanty vegetation and where the shifting sands begin. It was not found farther in the sand where there was no vegetation. The beetle runs rapidly upon the sand and it emits an orange liquid from its mouth. This tiger-beetle emerges in August, when the most perfect specimens can be obtained, and probably hibernates in the sand until spring. By the reason of frequent sand storms to which this species is subjected, the specimens caught in June lack most of

the hair on the front and on the upper side of the thorax. During the month of August a few specimens were taken belonging to the preceding generation, and are of a dull green bronze.

On July 5, 1937, Mr. R. P. Allen discovered at Tuba City, Arizona, *Cicindela nevadica tubensis* Cazier. Two years after, on August 8, I found four specimens of the same subspecies, at Farmington, New Mexico; the following year on July 13, at Canon Largo about eight miles from Blanco, New Mexico, I

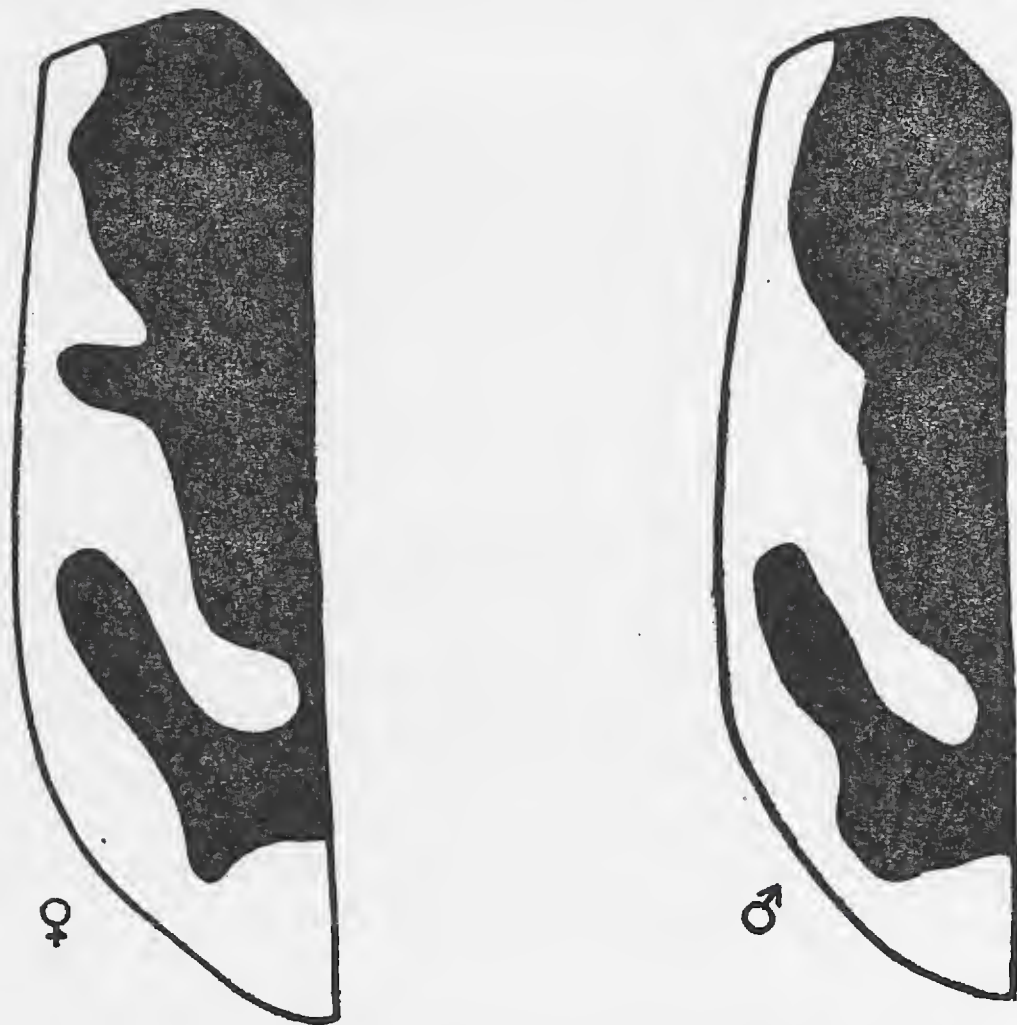


Fig. 1. Elytral pattern of *Cicindela theatina* Rotger.

caught eleven specimens of the same. Mr. Mont A. Cazier who identified this form informed me that it had never before been taken in New Mexico.

Looking after butterflies, I was forced by the cloudy day to pay more attention to Coleoptera, and luckily so, for I found among small ants a few specimens of *Fustiger knausi* Schfr. This is the first time that the *Clavigeridae* family has been collected in Colorado. The species was found as I was descending from Mesa Reservoir, near Durango, on April 30, 1941. Mr. Alan S. Nicolay made the identification.